

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A perforation and image exposure system comprising an image exposure apparatus for exposing an image into a plate, and a punch unit for forming on the plate punched holes for positioning, the perforation and image exposure system forming the plate having the punched holes for positioning and being exposed in the image,

wherein the image exposure apparatus comprises:

10 a pair of first positioning pins which are in contact with a front edge of the plate;

15 a first reference pin for defining a lateral position of the plate through contacting with one side edge of the plate contacting the pair of first positioning pins; and

image exposure means for exposing the image into the plate subjected to positioning by the pair of first positioning pins and the first reference pin,

wherein the punch unit comprises:

20 a pair of second positioning pins which are in contact with the front edge of the plate;

25 a second reference pin for defining a lateral position of the plate through contacting with one side edge of the plate contacting the pair of second positioning pins; and

perforation means for forming punched holes for positioning on the plate subjected to positioning by the

pair of second positioning pins and the second reference pin, and

wherein when the image exposure apparatus and the punch unit perform positioning for the same plate, the image exposure apparatus and the punch unit keep relative positions of three pins of the pair of first positioning pins and the first reference pin and relative positions of three pins of the pair of second positioning pins and the second reference pin at same positions.

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2. A perforation and image exposure system according to claim 1, wherein the first reference pin and the second reference pin are movable in a same direction as a direction coupling the pair of first positioning pins with one another and in a same direction as a direction coupling the pair of second positioning pins with one another, respectively, and

wherein when the image exposure apparatus and the punch unit perform positioning for the same plate, the image exposure apparatus and the punch unit further comprise first reference pin position control means and second reference pin position control means, respectively, the first reference pin position control means and the second reference pin position control means moving the first reference pin and the second reference pin to positions in which relative positions of the first reference pin and the second reference pin to the pair of

first positioning pins and the pair of second positioning pins are same, respectively.

3. A perforation and image exposure system
5 according to claim 2, wherein one of the image exposure apparatus and the punch unit has information input means for entering size information of the plate, and information transmitting means for transmitting information entered from the information input means to another apparatus or 10 unit, and the another apparatus or unit has information receiving means for receiving information transmitted from the one apparatus or unit,

the reference pin position control means provided on the one apparatus or unit controls a position of the 15 reference pin provided on the one apparatus or unit in accordance with the information entered from the information input means, and

the reference pin position control means provided on the another apparatus or unit controls a position of the 20 reference pin provided on the another apparatus or unit in accordance with the size information of the plate received by the information receiving means.

4. A perforation and image exposure system
25 according to claim 3, wherein the one apparatus or unit is the image exposure apparatus, the information input means enters punch type information as well as the size

information, and the perforation means forms the punched holes in accordance with the punch type information received by the information receiving means.

5 5. A perforation and image exposure system according to claim 1, wherein the punch unit has punch type input means for entering punch type information, and
 the perforation means forms the punched holes in accordance with the punch type information entered from the
10 punch type input means.

6. A perforation and image exposure system according to claim 1, wherein the image exposure apparatus has a plate guide unit, which incorporates therein a plate feed roller for conveying the plate to the first positioning pins by means of rotating while a lower surface of the plate is supported, the plate feed roller rotating below the plate at a position in which a front edge of the plate is in contact with the first positioning pins, the
15 first reference pin, and a width direction moving unit having an urging pin urging the plate to the first reference pin through conveying the plate to the first reference pin.

25 7. A perforation and image exposure system according to claim 1, wherein the image exposure apparatus has a rotating drum around which the plate is wound, and an

exposure head for exposing an image into the plate wound around the rotating drum, and the first positioning pins are provided on a peripheral surface of the rotating drum.